GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:47
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP OF SECURITY COUNCIL
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Kingdom has proposed India`s name for permanent membership in the Security Council;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Union Government thereto; and

(c) the necessary initiative being taken by the Government for getting permanent membership in the Security Council?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has welcomed the support expressed by the United Kingdom.

(c) The issue of the reform and the restructuring of the UN Security Council has been under discussion at the United Nations for several years. At the UN, an Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) was set up in 1993, where discussions have taken place on all aspects of the reform and restructuring of the UN Security Council. India formally presented its candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council for the first time in 1994 in the UN, and has pursued this at each session of the UN General Assembly, in the OEWG, as well as in high-level bilateral interactions. There is growing momentum in support of India`s candidature for permanent membership.